

List of the claims:

1. (Original) A method for controlling at least one television production device, comprising the steps of:

(a) establishing a plurality of states of the at least one production device, each state corresponding to at least one operation executable by the device;

(b) storing the states of the at least one production device as corresponding memory objects which upon execution cause the one production device to execute the at least one operation, which results in generation of a scene;

(c) parameterizing each memory object in accordance with characteristics of the scene that results from execution of that memory object,

(d) responsive to selection of at least one memory object selected in accordance with the parameterization thereof, executing each selected memory object to cause execution of a corresponding operation by the one television production device to yield at least one scene of interest.

2. (Original) Apparatus for controlling at least one television production device, comprising the steps of:

means for establishing a plurality of states of the at least one production device, each state corresponding to at least one operation executable by the device;

means for storing the states of the at least one production device as corresponding memory objects which upon execution cause the one production device to execute the at least one operation, which results in generation of a scene;

means for parameterizing each state memory object stored in said storage means in accordance with characteristics of the scene that results from execution of that state memory object,

means responsive to selection of at least one state memory object selected in accordance with the parameterization thereof, executing each selected state memory objects to cause execution of corresponding operations by the one television production device to yield at least one scene of interest.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of
establishing a plurality of states of a plurality of production devices, each
state corresponding to at least one operation executable by each device;
storing the states of the plurality of production devices as corresponding
memory objects which upon execution cause the respective production devices to
execute the at least one operation associated with the memory object which results
in generation of a scene;
parameterizing each memory object in accordance with characteristics of the
scene that results from execution of that memory object,
responsive to selection of a set of memory object selected in accordance with
the parameterization thereof, executing each selected memory objects in the set to
cause execution of corresponding operations by the associated production device to
yield at least one scene of interest.
4. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
repeating the steps of (a)-(c) for each of a plurality of scenes; and
responsive to selection of at least a set of memory objects selected in
accordance with the parameterization thereof, executing the selected memory
objects to cause execution of corresponding at least one operation by the one
television production device to yield the plurality of scenes.
5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of
altering said at least one memory object under operator control.
6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of
executing a plurality of memory objects responsive to selection of selection of
different scene appearances by an operator.
7. (Original) A method for producing a television program via a plurality of
production devices connected to a control system, and comprising the steps:

(a) pre-producing the program by controlling at least one of the production devices to establish a scene of the program;

(b) creating a memory object representing the state the at least one production devices for the at least one scene;

(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) to establish a plurality of scenes for the program;

(d) producing the program by recalling the memory objects in a first sequence corresponding to a desired sequence of scenes such that each production devices assumes a state corresponding to the memory object.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7 further comprising the step of altering the sequence of memory objects from a first sequence to a second sequence prior to production.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 9 wherein the altering step is performed manually by an operator.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein each memory object specifies a plurality of states of an associated production device.

11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein said at least one production device include a video production switcher.

12. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein said at least one production device include a digital video effects device.

13. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein said at least one production device include an audio mixer.

14. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein said at least one production device include a camera robotic controller.

15. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein said at least one production device include a lighting controller.

16. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein said at least one production device include a teleprompter.

17. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein said at least one production device include a character generator.